

Wilson Votes to Boost Job Creation, Innovation in Solar Technology

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Charlie Wilson (OH-6) voted yesterday to boost job creation and provide real solutions to our energy needs by developing a concrete plan for the research and development of American-made solar technology.

The Solar Technology Roadmap Act establishes a comprehensive process to facilitate the research, development and demonstration of American solar technology in partnership with the private sector. It requires the Secretary of Energy to appoint an 11-member Solar Technology Roadmap Committee to write, review and update a Solar Technology Roadmap.

“I am excited about the possibilities that lay ahead in the solar technology field. If we invest the resources now, we will one day be able to use solar technology to reduce our needs for foreign oil and spur economic growth,” Wilson said. “This is a smart investment in our future.”

The Roadmap will lay out short-term and long-term objectives for solar technology research and development. It will provide a path forward to make solar technology more dependable and widely available to American consumers. The Roadmap will also authorize the Department of Energy to award grants to entrepreneurs, research agencies and academic laboratories that are leading the field in solar tech development and solar manufacturing.

“I had the opportunity earlier this year to visit the Wayne National Forest Solar Project. They had just received Recovery Act funding to install 250 additional solar panels on the roof of their Nelsonville headquarters. These panels would enable the facility to generate up to 50% of its own power with solar energy during the summer months,” Wilson recalled. “I look forward to more projects like this one emerging across Ohio as part of the Solar Technology Roadmap.”